

A Fall and True
A C C O U N T

Of a Horrid Barbarous and Bloody MURDER Committed on the Body of one Mr. George Bell at the Bell and Dragon at Charing-Cross, on Monday Night last, by one Thomas Scot, a North-Britain, by stabbing him in the Breast and Groin, without Provocation, leaving behind him a Wife and Six Children: As also a Reward of 5*l*. for the Apprehending him, to be paid by the Widow.

2. Sept. 1708.

ON Monday Night last being the 30th of this Instant *August*, between Twelve and One, there was a sad and deplorable Murder Committed on the Body of *George Bell*, a Victualler, at the *Bell and Dragon at Charing Cross*, by one *Mr. Thomas Scott* a Lodger in the same House, in manner following.

About 12 a Clock at Night the whole Family went to Bed, not expecting *Scot* to come home that Night, and about half an Hour after, a Gentleman who Lodg'd in the same House, not being gone to Bed, and hearing a Noise, he went down Stairs to see what was the matter, where he found the Water running under the Back Door into the Cellar by a strong Current occasion'd by the excessive Rain, whereupon he went to the Deceas'd Chamber Door, and told him of it, upon which he arose, and call'd up another Gentleman a Lodger in the House, who assisted in stopping the passage of the Water, and likewise helpt to empty the Cellar.

When they had done, the two Gentlemen and the Landlord were cleaning themselves in the *Kitchen*, and in the mean while *Mr. Scot* knockt at the Door; *Mr. Bell* the Deceas'd, askt who it was, he answer'd it was *Scot*; the Deceas'd answer'd him again, I wish you were hang'd for staying out so late and so let him in; as soon as he enter'd he resented the Words with an Oath and a Box on the Ear, and put his Hand to his Sword, but was hinder'd from Drawing, and reprimand-ed by one of the Gentleman for offering to Draw upon a Naked Man.

Immediately after, finding the deceased washing his Hands in the Sink, with his back to *Scot*, he kick'd him with his Foot, the deceased having no Breeches on; whereupon he turn'd about to defend himself from the Murderer, and the deceased's Wife got between to save her Husband; in the mean time *Scot* drew his Sword, and stabb'd him in the Breast, upon which he flew back and said he was wounded; the Murderer gave him another stab in the Groyn at going off, upon which he dy'd about Six a Clock on *Tuesday* Night, and the Murderer made his escape Sword in Hand.

Murder is so heinous a Crime, that no lover of Christianity will countenance it, even in his own Brother; therefore I hope all good Christians will consider the Case of the Poor Widow, who is left with Six helpless Children, in doing their utmost endeavour to apprehend this Bloody Murderer.

Thomas Scot, a middle size Young Man, sandy Hair, round Face, little Eyes, about 20 Years of Age, wears a Natural Wig, a dark Colour'd Druggist Suit; Murder'd on Monday Night, the 30th of *August*, *George Bell*, at the Bell and Dragon, Charing-Cross, and is since run away. Whoever secures him, so that he may be brought to Justice, shall have 5*l*. Reward to be paid by the Widow at the Bell and Dragon aforesaid.

L O N D O N: Printed for J. Williams near Charing-Cross. 1708.

SHE WENT, That after Thirteen Years faithful Service in the *English* Nation, he was assigned by some of his Sea-men (when Commander of Her Majesty's Ship the *Bounty*) of some Milligenaers, which they soon after recruited under their Hands, and Broke of his Employment and Minuted the *Court-Martial*, the said *Smith* was there Tried, Innocence of his Accusation, and his Respect to the Nations Service, he to shew his for to Attend the Princes Council, in December 1703, and did there Receive Her Majesties Gracious Word by as they should see meet: So that the said *Smith* gave daily his long and Expressive Attendance at the Admiralty; and finding no Employ came, he Entered himself a Volunteer under the Command of all Differences and Sobriety, as appears by good Evidence. And that the said *Smith* himself with all Differences and Sobriety, as appears by his Papers, testifying for the same, with Certificates from under the Hands of the Chief Magistrates of those Ports whereunto he had been serviceable in this Nation, and likewise of his Conduct and Behaviour; and had upon his Petitions several times to the Queen, Her Gracious Word to attend the Princes Council, which according to the said *Smith* did, from time to time, for the space of about Three Years; and according to all his Substances was then in a Despicable Condition, and not knowing what to do, he offered himself a Master-mate in any Merchant-Ship, by the help of one Mr. Hill at the sign of the *White-Hart* at *Wapping-new-fleet*, who was to have Twenty Shillings for helping the said *Smith* to any such Employ, and he waiting so long had been with several Masters in Company with *Hill*, who makes it his whole Employ under the Name of a *Crimp*: But being the dead time of the Year and but few Merchant-Ships then fitting, so that nothing of an Employ happened until the said *Smith* had neither Money nor food to help himself, inasmuch that he borrowed Five Shillings of one Mrs. Boul at *Russell-Croft* to help him to his home, which was at *North-Bridle* in the River of *New Castle upon Tyne*, and then coming home, finding with, his Wife and Family all things but very mean and no Credit, for the Relief of himself and Place and Rings with other Moveables he had left, for the Relief of himself and Family; the said *Smith* took Passage in the *St. Peter of Stockholm* at *North-Shields*, and bound for *Labin* in hopes of getting an Employ there, under Commissioners *Wright*, to whom he was recommended by a Relation, who had great Influence on the *Astorland* Commissioners for the *English* Nation; and the said *Smith* sailed away in the said Ship from *North-Shields* on the seventh of *February* 1706, and in his Passage was taken near the *Isle of Wight*, by a French Privateer on the fifth month of the same Month, who let the Ship pris away on her Voyage, only Detaining *Smith* as a Prisoner on Board the French Ship some few days after, the French Privateer took a small Ship of *London* from *Spain*, *John Clarke* Commander, the French Privateer took this Men were brought on Board the said Privateer as Prisoners, and the Prize sent away, and the said French Captn sailing to the *Westward*, and Commanded their Masters on board of which Ships bound for *London*, and Commanded their Masters on board of which Ships bound for *London*, and the said *Smith* begged of the Captn of the French Privateer to let him on board of either of them, which he refused; and after he was being out for Cleaning his Ship, he landed the *Astorland* *Smith* with Mr. *John Clarke* and *John Burrows* into *Dunbar*, where they were put into the Common Prison, when *Clarke* and *Smith* were Bed-fellows together upon *Stew-Beds* in which Place *Smith* was obliged to be employed in the King of *France's* service, in having nothing to rely on in *England*; and by reason of his being taken in a Foreign-Robbery, could not be Exchanged as a Prisoner of War, and no Money to help himself, nor Credit, was allowed to Accept the King of *France's* Bread, rather than Starve in a Prison, to which the said *Smith* did not leave the Nation of *England*, one of my Light or Malice, but purely for want of Bread.

Captain Thomas Smith,
 Late Commander of the *Nigblingale*, now
 a Prisoner in *Newgate*.

CASA

И. И. Т.